Application No.: 10/519,840 Preliminary Amendment

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following rewritten paragraph:

By the way, since the MPEG2 encoding system prescribes that only I (Intra)-pictures and P (Predictive)-pictures are used as pictures for inter-prediction-encoding to be inter-prediction-encoded, a decoding order for the decoding process is naturally determined.

Please replace paragraph [0023] with the following rewritten paragraph:

On the other hand, as compared with the MPEG2 encoding system, the JVT encoding system has a larger degree of freedom for selection of pictures for prediction-encoding to be prediction-encoded, for example, it can treat not only I- and P-pictures but also B (Bidirectional)-pictures as pictures for inter-prediction-encoding to be inter-prediction-encoded.